

ON THE TRAIL OF THE EARLIEST PEOPLE

Textbook Intext Questions

Page No. 12

1. List the skills and knowledge that the children of these communities had.

Sol. The children of these communities gradually learn about hunting, gathering fruits, nuts, roots, leaves, seeds, stacks and eggs. They also had to find which parts were edible or whether they were poisonous or not.

2. Do you have these skills and knowledge?

Sol. No.

3. How do you come to school?

Sol. I come to my school by school bus.

4. How long would it take you to walk from your home to school?

Sol. If I walk from my home to school, it would take me half hour.

5. How long would it take you if you took a bus or rode a bicycle?

Sol. If I take a bus it will take 15 minutes and if I ride a bicycle it will take around 45 minutes.

Page No. 13

1. Some uses of stone tools are given. Make a list of what these tools were used for and try and decide which of these tasks could be performed using a natural pebble. Give reasons for your answer.

Sol. The some of the stone tools were used to cut meat and bone; scrape bark from trees and hides from animals; chop fruits and roots. After attaching handles of bone or wood spears and arrows were used for hunting.

Other tools were used to chop wood, which was used as firewood. Wood was also used to make huts and tools.

The natural pebbles have a smooth and shiny surface. It does not have sharp edges which can chop wood or scrape bark from the trees.

Page No. 15

1. If you had to describe the place you live in, which of the terms would you choose?

(a) habitation

(b) factory

(c) habitation-cum-factory

(d) any other.

Sol. (d) Any other i.e., locality.

Page No. 16

1. What do we use fire for today?

- Sol.** Today, we use fire for the following use:
(i) to cook food;
(ii) to heat the water;
(iii) for making steam from coal and water;
(iv) for moulding metals; and many more.

Page No. 17

- 1. Look at the illustration on page 13 of NCERT Textbook. Do you notice any difference in the tools belonging to these periods?**
Sol. The tools of Palaeolithic age were large and bulky. It was difficult to carry and hold them in hand. While the tools of Mesolithic age were tiny and could be stuck to handles of wood or bones to make tools such as sickles and saws. They had a sharper edge.
- 2. What do you think the term Neolithic means?**
Sol. The word Neolithic comes from two Greek words Neo meaning new and Lithos meaning stone. Hence, Neolithic means New Stone Age.

Page No. 18

- 1. What do you think the beads could have been used for?**
Sol. Beads could have been used for prayers. Beads are a small perforated ball used in counting prayers, till date.
- 2. Where do we find Ostriches today?**
Sol. Today, Ostriches are found in Africa, Canada, Newzealand, etc.
- 3. Find Hungsi on Map 2 (as shown on page 14 of NCERT Textbook).**
Sol. See map.

Page No. 19

- 1. At some of the sites evidence suggest that tools were made. Can you think of a term for the second type of sites.**
Sol. These sites are called factory. _____

Textbook Exercises

Page No. 20

IMAGINE

- 1. You live in a rock shelter like the one shown on page 15 (NCERT Textbook) about 12,000 years ago. Your uncle is painting one of the inner walls of the cave and you want to help him. Will you mix the colours, draw the lines, fill in the colours? What are the stories he might tell you?**
Sol. I shall mix colours for him. My uncle would be telling me about his hunting activities at that time.

LET'S RECALL

- 1. Complete the sentences:**

(a) Hunter-gatherers chose to live in caves and rock shelters because

(b) Grasslands developed around years ago.

(c) Early people painted on the of caves.

(d) In Hunsgi, tools were made of

Sol. (a) these were best survival places
(b) 12000
(c) walls
(d) lime-stone.

2. Look at the present-day political map of the subcontinent on page 136. Find out the states where Bhimbetka, Hunsgi and Kurnool are located. Would Tushar's train have passed near any of these sites?

Sol. Bhimbetka is located in Madhya Pradesh state.
Hunsgi is located in Karnataka state.
Kurnool is located in Andhra Pradesh state.
Tushar's train will pass nearby of Hunsgi and Kurnool.

LET'S DISCUSS

3. Why did the hunter-gatherers travel from place to place? In what ways are these similar to, different from the reasons for which we travel today?

Sol. There are at least four reasons why hunter-gatherers moved from place to place.
First, if they had stayed at one place for a long time, they would have eaten up all the available plant and animal resources. Therefore, they would have had to go elsewhere in search of food.
Second, animals move from place to place — either in search of smaller prey, or, in the case of deer and wild cattle, in search of grass and leaves. That is why those who hunted them had to follow their movements.
Third, giants and trees bear fruit in different seasons. So, people may have moved from season to season in search of different kinds of plants. Fourth, people, plants and animals need water to survive. Water is found in lakes, streams and rivers. While many rivers and lakes are perennial (with water throughout the year) others are seasonal. People living on their banks would have had to go in search of water during the dry seasons (winter and summer). But, in Modern age a civilized person move or travel from one place to other place in search of good livelihood.
Also he lives settle life.
Besides, people may have travelled to meet their friends and relatives.

4. What tools would you use today for cutting fruit? What would they be made of?

Sol. Today, we used tools like knife, cutter and shilter for cutting fruits. They are made of stainless-steel or iron.

5. List three ways in which hunter-gatherers used fire (see page 16 of NCERT Textbook). Would you use fire for any of these purposes today?

Sol. Hunter-gatherers used the fire as a source of light, to cook meat, and to scare away animals.
Yes, we use fire even today for different purposes such as to cook the food and to keep us warm.

LET'S DO

6. Make two columns in your notebook. In the left hand column, list the foods hunter-gatherers ate (see page 11 of NCERT Textbook). In the right hand column, list some of the foods you eat. Do you notice any similarities, differences?

Sol.

Column A	Column B
Food eaten by hunter-gatherers	Food we eat
(i) Fruits	(i) Fruits

(ii) Roots	(ii) Roti
(iii) Nuts	(iii) Rice
(iv) Sheeds	(iv) Curd
(v) Leaves	(v) Dal
(vi) Eggs	(vi) Vegetables
(vii) Stalks	(vii) Papad
(viii) Meat (Uncooked, Cooked)	(viii) Dosa
	(ix) Idli

The main difference is that hunter-gatherers used to eat uncooked food because they did not know how to cook food.

7. If you had a natural pebble like the ones show on page 13 (of NCERT Textbook) what would you use it for?

Sol. If we had a natural pebble like shown in figure (NCERT Textbook page 13) these stone tools were used to cut meat and bone, scrape bark (from trees) and hides (animal skins), chop fruit and roots.

8. List two tasks that are performed by both men and women at present. List another two that are performed only by women, and two that are performed only by men. Compare your list with that of any two of your classmates. Do you notice any similarities, differences in your lists?

Sol. Do yourself.